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STRIKE CALLED AT MUNITION PLANTS; REMINGTON HELP ARE HELD IN DURING NOON

GOMPERS WON'T DIRECT STRIKE; HAS NOT THAT RIGHT, SAYS KEPPLER

"We would welcome the good offices of Sam Gompers or anyone else in an effort to settle this trouble," said J. J. Keppler, International Vice-President of the Machinists, today relative to Mr. Gompers' comments on the arms strike here.

"But you can say for me," he added, "that Mr. Gompers or no one else is coming here to direct this strike. Mr. Gompers is in our employ, and takes orders from us. We feel that we can handle the situation here adequately."

Relative to the statement, credited to Mr. Gompers, that German influences and German money were behind the strike, Mr. Keppler was a bit angry.

"We're going to have Mr. Gompers clear up this matter," he said. "His statement would indicate that we got German money. If anyone got any money, I can assure you that it wasn't us, and Mr. Gompers will be asked to clear up his statements."

BUILDING OPERATIONS AT THE REMINGTON PLANT MUST STOP SOON; BRICKLAYERS CAUGHT UP

Seventy had carriers were laid off at the plant of the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co., at noon. By tomorrow every bricklayer will have completed work as far as possible in view of the suspended structural iron operations, and they and their assistants will be at a stand still as far as labor at the plant goes.

George G. Griest, superintendent of the Stewart Construction Co., when questioned as to how the Stewart Co. stands on the matter of the strike said this afternoon. "As far as we are concerned the situation stands the same as it did last week. We will finish the buildings as far as we can now and turn them over to the Remington Co."

This statement is taken to indicate that the munitions concern has decided to proceed as far as possible in buildings in their present state of construction.

When asked if he would put in wood construction in place of iron in the buildings to get along without the iron workers, Mr. Griest said: "Nothing has been done along these lines yet."

He said, in regard to the machinists, that they come under Major Penfield's jurisdiction and has nothing to do with them.

It is a question, according to discussion, whether there is a strike at the Bullard Machine Tool Co. or not. It is not known if the orders were properly delivered there. The men did not go back to work there but opinion differs as to whether they were looked out or they walked out.

Thomas J. Sayre, member of the general executive board of labor at Washington, D. C., who undertook to deliver the orders for quitting at the various other factories besides the Remington Arms building, reported that he had delivered his orders, as instructed and the orders had been complied with.

One of the most important announcements made on the strike situation in the last few days was made this morning by Geo. G. Griest, treasurer of Stewart Construction Co. in regard to the standing of the millwrights. "As far as the Stewart Co. is concerned the millwrights never struck," said Mr. Griest. "They merely asked to discontinue work until the differences between the carpenters and the structural ironworkers are settled."

This is significant as it means the millwrights are still in good standing with the Stewart Co. despite the fact that all the turmoil started over them and their troubles have been frequently aired throughout the strike.

Vincent de Paiva, organizer of the Hod Carriers' union, left this city suddenly this morning to go to New York where he was in conference with D. D'Allesandre, president of the Hod Carriers' union.

It is understood that the conference was for the purpose of settling internal differences among the members of the Hod Carriers' union. A stormy meeting was held last night, it is said, and five members were ejected. A. Gallo, business agent of the union, declared that the rumor to the effect that they are I. W. W. members is untrue.

Twelve file layers, who were working at the entrances of the buildings had to quit this morning because they cannot proceed further with their work, owing to the quitting of the structural iron workers.

The discharge of the 76 hod carriers this morning, virtually cripples any attempt at strike for them, because they will have no representation in the shop after tomorrow. By that time, it is expected they and all their helpers will have been dropped from the job owing to the fact that there is no more work for them.

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"WILL FIGHT IT OUT IF TAKES ALL SUMMER," SAYS LABOR LEADER

Commenting on a statement credited to Major Walter G. Penfield, manager of the Remington Arms-U. M. C. plant, in which it was implied that "German influences" were responsible for the strike, John A. Johnston, vice president of the Bridge and Structural Ironworkers of America, to-day issued the following:

"I see that Major Penfield says I am a paid hireling of the German Imperial Government. Well, he can't dismiss this matter so easily. If he thinks he can pull the wool over the eyes of the public by such utterances he is mistaken."

"We are in the fight to win. My associates likewise are on the ground here to win. We won't move from here until we win. We will stay all summer if necessary. We have justice on our side."

"If necessary we will paralyze any allied industry doing the work of the Remington Arms-U. M. C. plant."

HILL TAKES STAND TO TRY TO DISPROVE CORRUPT PRACTICES CHARGE BROUGHT BY DONOVAN

U. S. Senator McLean's Refusal to Come Across With Endorsement For Congressional Candidates Is Brought to Light.

Ashes's Peculiar Methods in Collecting Funds Sensation of Forenoon's Inquiry of State's Attorney Cummings.

Stamford, July 20.—Ebenzer J. Hill, the chronic congressman of the Fourth district, took the stand this afternoon at the federal inquiry into the alleged violation of the corrupt practices act in his election to succeed Jeremiah Donovan.

The former congressman sat through an unusually eventful morning session before he was called, after the noonday recess, to explain how it came to pass that the Republican congressional committee came to spend \$10,000 in the last campaign.

The star witness of the morning session was J. J. Ashe. Ashe was formerly a furrier, identified with the hat business in Norwalk. In later years he conducted the Triangle Shirtwaist factory in Washington Square, New York city, where many shopgirls were killed in a fire.

Ashe told, under the adroit questioning of Homer S. Cummings, counsel for Mr. Donovan, the story of his visit to Danbury with Hill, his conference with a secret gathering of manufacturers in a Danbury club, of their making a pool of funds to help in the campaign, and of his co-operation with Charles A. Mallory in the solicitation of funds.

Ashe admitted that he had no authority to collect funds, was no one's political agent, carried no credentials and was not obliged to give any accounting of his collections. He said he gathered \$350 in checks and cash, and that Mallory sent another sum.

The fact that former U. S. Senator George B. McLean refused to come across with an endorsement of Mr. Hill's candidacy became known for the first time to-day when Hill resumed the witness stand.

McLean's reply to a request of this nature was termed as "unsatisfactory."

First of the witnesses to-day was Judge F. A. Bartlett of the Bridgeport City court. He was a candidate for State Senator, and was a member of the Congressional committee when Hill made his run.

He was unable to tell much of the committee's finances or other activities.

As he was the next witness, and his disclosure of the unusual methods resorted to in the gathering of funds was the sensation of the morning session.

George A. Darroge of Westport, told how he had received \$50 from A. C. Wheeler, Hill's political agent. He credited the payment, as manager of the Westport fund, to State Senator Salmon. It was "an error," he said.

When Milton Fessenden was on the witness stand again, Cummings had him produce a mass of correspondence with Hill, Wheeler and others.

Fessenden admitted that Hill picked out even the bill board locations where the posters bearing Hill's likeness were to appear. He told how Hill prepared copy for printed appeals for funds to effect his election.

Then it was that came the interesting disclosure of McLean's refusal to endorse Hill.

In reply to such an appeal, there was a brief note from McLean, saying that Hill would be elected anyhow.

Fessenden was most reluctant to disclose this fact, and it was brought out only when Cummings insisted upon explanation of the phrase in another letter referring to McLean's letter as very unsatisfactory.

WELSH COAL STRIKE ENDS

London, July 20.—The South Wales coal strike has been settled. An agreement to end it was reached today. It is expected the miners will be back at work on Thursday.

U. S. NOTIFIED OF ATTACK ON LINER ORDUNA

Washington, July 20.—The German submarine attack on the Cunard liner Orduna was formally brought to the attention of the American government to-day by William O. Thompson, counsel for the Industrial Relations Commission, who was a passenger on the Orduna.

Secretary Lansing took Mr. Thompson's communication to the White House with him when he went, some time before the cabinet meeting, for an early conference with President Wilson. It was said Mr. Thompson's statement did nothing more than present the attack to the government officially.

BRITISH STEAMER, OUT OF NEW YORK, RAMMED AND SUNK

London, July 20.—The British steamer Polish Prince, from New York, July 17, has been sunk in collision with the Lowther Range. One man was drowned, the remaining members of the crew being landed to-day at Barry by the Lowther Range. The latter was damaged about the bow.

The Polish Prince was of 1,862 tons net. From New York she went to the West Indies and thence to Queenstown, where she arrived on July fourteenth.

AUSTRIA PROHIBITS USE OF CORN FOR ORNAMENTS

Berne, Switzerland, July 20.—The use of ears of corn for trimming ladies' hats or for preservation in the form of ornamental bouquets has been prohibited in the grain growing districts of Austria by official decree.

ENGLAND ASKS WAR LOAN OF \$750,000,000

Supplementary Budget To Tide Over Financial Crisis is Presented.

TOTAL NOW OVER THREE BILLIONS

Russian Steamer is Sunk By German Blockader—Crew is Rescued.

London, July 20.—A new vote of credit of 150,000,000 pounds (\$750,000,000) was introduced today in the House of Commons. This is the second supplementary vote will bring the sum actually appropriated by parliament to the total of \$3,250,000,000.

The amount thus provided will tide over the period of the forthcoming parliamentary recess. The vote of the credit does not involve a new loan but merely sanctions expenditure of funds on hand.

RUSSIAN STEAMER SUNK.

London, July 20.—The Russian steamer General Radetsky was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine on July 17. Her crew of 22 were saved.

FRENCH AEROS BUSY.

Paris, July 20.—The official announcement from the war office this afternoon says a squadron of six French aeroplanes bombed the station at Colmar, capital of Upper Alsace. The aeroplanes returned undamaged.

ORDERS TO EVACUATE WARSAW EXPECTED

London, July 20.—The uppermost question concerning the eastern campaign now is when Warsaw will be evacuated, rather than whether it will be given up.

With virtually all of Courland in the hands of Field Marshal Von Hindenberg and with the Austria-German fleet across the Bug, continued occupancy of the Polish capital exposes the Russians to the danger of disaster.

From Windaw the Germans are reported to be advancing towards Riga, with the intention of seizing that port and clearing the nearby seas of mines, thus obtaining another naval base. All the glory has not gone to Von Hindenberg, as his colleague, Field Marshal Von Mackensen, is credited with the capture of Krasnostav.

On the western front the Germans apparently are content to maintain a series of sporadic attacks on various portions of the line.

Paris claims the Germans suffered severe losses in an unsuccessful assault on the heights of the Meuse.

The coal strike situation is described in despatches from the mine fields as being more hopeful to-day.

STATE LABOR DEPT. SENDS AGENT HERE TO PROBE TROUBLE

Hartford, July 20.—Governor Holcomb said to-day he had not asked the board of mediation and arbitration to take action to bring about a settlement of the labor troubles in Bridgeport. He assumed that the board knew what was required of it. The board consists of Hugh G. Shalvey of Danbury, Lucius E. Whitton of New London and Edward W. Broder of this city.

Labor Commissioner W. S. Hyde said he had authorized G. A. Parsons, special agent of the labor department, to go to Bridgeport to obtain facts in relation to the strike and the number of employees affected.

NAME SIKSAY TRUSTEE ON JOHN BODNAR ESTATE

At a meeting of the creditors of John Bodnar, a Hallett street butcher, held this morning in the bankruptcy court, Stephen Siksay of this city was named trustee. Joseph Solomon, Carl Rising and Benjamin J. Weinstein were named appraisers. The trustee furnished a \$500 bond.

FOUR PLANTS WORKING FOR THE REMINGTON CO. AFFECTED BY WALK-OUT

That the Bridgeport Arms Works machinists and toolmakers were held prisoners in order to forestall the final message to remain out on strike this noon was the declaration, this afternoon of John A. Johnston, the international vice president of the Structural Ironworkers union, an ex-officio and member of the executive committee of the Bridgeport Machinists' local.

"But we'll get them at 5 o'clock. We were not able to see them this noon," labor leaders said.

Though no official statement was forthcoming, at the Remington plants, this afternoon, it was unofficially reported that Major Penfield had called a meeting of the men this noon, promised them \$1 a day increase, and an agreement for a continuance of the eight-hour day.

This report was widely circulated, especially among union labor circles this afternoon. The Farmer could not gain confirmation of it from authentic sources.

Walkouts were ordered this noon by the executive committee, in four plants. These were:

The Remington plants—including all the factories of the Remington interests in this city, the Arms Works, the U. M. C. Co., and the Middle street branch of the Remington company.

Bridgeport Engineering Co., Bruce and Connecticut avenues.

Columbia Nut & Bolt Co., Railroad avenue.

Gaynor Mfg. Co., Stratford avenue, Stratford.

Bullard Machine Tool Co., Railroad avenue.

After the noon hour, all the machinists and tool makers of the Gaynor plant, including many not working on war materials for the U. M. C., were out.

At the Bridgeport Engineering Co. it was reported that nine out of 20 were on strike.

It was denied at the Bullard plant that any employees were out. Here a number of union machinists lost their employment on Saturday.

Similar denial was made that men were out at the Columbia Nut & Bolt Co.

In giving out these names Mr. Keppler issued this statement:

"Delegations of the machinists will call upon every factory involved in the strike. They may not be able to call upon them before the men are called out, at noon, but they will call on them during the day. They will state to these factories that the strike is not called upon them because of their attitude towards the eight hour day, but because they are doing contract work for the U. M. C. Co. upon which a strike has been called."

"The constitution of the machinists' union is very clear, that no union man can do work in any factory for a factory where the men have struck. Therefore it is necessary for us to call out these several factories."

"We do not want these companies to think there is any personal grievance against them. Later we shall take up the eight hour day with them."

Mr. Keppler spoke particularly of the favorable conditions at the Gaynor Mfg. Co., which he said he had been informed was favorably disposed towards the eight hour proposition. He said he was sorry he could not take up that matter now, because the constitution of the machinists made it clear that these plants supplying the U. M. C. plants, must strike.

Referring to the Columbia Nut & Bolt Co., he said that owing to the attitude of Fred Atwater, whose statement that the men should have more work and less money that they might not have time to spend their money in saloons, the machinists were bitter.